

**United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management**

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**Categorical Exclusion Not Established By Statute**

**DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2016-0009-CX**

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**October 2015**

**Film Permit UTU-91445  
“West World” HBO Television Series**

***Locations:***

“Action Shots Beach” SR-128  
Fossil Point  
Kane Creek Road  
Pritchett Canyon  
Swayze Rapids  
Monitor & Merrimac Buttes, aerial photography  
Fisher Mesa, aerial photography

***Applicant/Address:***

**Autonomy Productions, LLC  
24715 Oak Creek Ave.  
Newhall, California 91321**

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Bureau of Land management  
Moab Field Office  
82 East Dogwood  
Moab, Utah 84532  
435-259-2100  
435-259-2158



**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FORMAT WHEN USING  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS NOT ESTABLISHED BY STATUTE**

**A. Background**

BLM Office: Moab Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No: UTU-91445

Proposed Action Title/Type:

Film Permit – “West World” HBO Television Series

Locations of Proposed Action:

“Action Shots Beach” SR-128

Fossil Point

Kane Creek Road

Pritchett Canyon

Swayze Rapids

Monitor & Merrimac Buttes, aerial photography

Fisher Mesa, aerial photography

**Description of Proposed Action:** On October 6, 2015, Autonomy Productions LLC filed film permit application UTU-91445 for up to 12 days of filming from October 22 to November 2, 2015. The product would be used for scenes in an HBO television series. The company consists of up to 27 vehicles, 10 ATVs, 4 wagons, a helicopter and approximately 100 people; however, the number of crew working at the actual film locations would be limited to only those needed for set-up (prep), filming and clean-up (wrap.) During prep and wrap, the crew would total well less than 100 people, while during filming it would increase to 100 crew members. There would be 20 horses involved in the filming activities.

**Proposed filming activities by location are described below:**

**Swayze Rapids**

**Prep: 10.22.2015 through 10.24.2015**

**Shoot: 10.25.2015**

**Strike: 10.26.2015**

“Creek near Avalon Shootout” filming at campground and beach north of boat ramp

GPS: 39.115497, -110.109582

Foot chase, 19 horses, guns, gunfire, wagons, dead bodies, actors in water, actors cross river on foot and on horseback. Intermittent traffic control.

Additional Base Staging Needed 10.22.2015 through 10.26.2015

Boat ramp and area to south

Lower Grey Canyon Parking Area

Parking lots and campground north and south of boat launch

Trucks, Trailers, Equipment & Catering

**Pritchett Canyon**

**Prep: 10.25.2015**

**Shoot: 10.26.2015**

**Strike: 10.27.2015**

“Narrow Canyon near Avalon” Pritchett Canyon GPS: 38.536511, -109.598219

Intermittent traffic control, guns, horses, equipment positioned on and off trails

**Kane Creek Blvd from Kane Springs Canyon parking lot to Hurrah Pass**

**Shoot: 10.26.2015**

¼ mile from Amasa parking area on south side of road, place 90 stakes with skulls (mounted on platforms), set dressings. GPS: 38.523925 -109.602672

Additional Base Staging needed 10.25.2015 through 10.27.2015

Kane Spring Canyon Lot GPS: 38.533182, -109.60116

Amasa Back Lot GPS: 38.528406, -109.596688

Trucks, Trailers, Equipment & Catering

**“Action Shots Beach”**

**Prep 10.25.2015 and 10.26.2015**

**Shoot 10.27.2015**

**Strike 10.28.2015**

“Armistice Bathing” Action Shots Beach GPS: 38.684282, -109.458806

Set construction of camp structures, nude bathing scene, intermittent, weapons brandished, wagons, horses, glowing embers floating in air

Additional Base Staging needed 10.25.2015 through 10.28.2015:

Sandy Beach Parking Lot GPS: 38.682233, -109.478284

128 Turnout GPS: 38.683774, -109.458099

128 Turnout GPS: 38.684248, -109.459219

128 Turnout GPS: 38.684863, -109.461587

128 Turnout GPS: 38.684684, -109.465229

Ida Gulch Gravel Pit, parking & LZ

Trucks, Trailers, Equipment & Catering

**Sandy Beach**

**Prep 10.25.2015 and 10.26.2015**

**Shoot 10.27.2015**

**Strike 10.28.2015**

“River” Sandy Beach GPS: 38.682233, -109.478284

Scene with boy sitting by river with glowing embers floating around him, intermittent traffic control, weapons brandished, wagons, horses

Additional Base Staging needed 10.25.2015 through 10.28.2015:

Sandy Beach Parking Lot GPS: 38.682233, -109.478284

128 Turnout GPS: 38.683774, -109.458099

128 Turnout GPS: 38.684248, -109.459219

128 Turnout GPS: 38.684863, -109.461587

128 Turnout GPS: 38.684684, -109.465229

Ida Gulch Gravel Pit, parking & LZ

Trucks, Trailers, Equipment, & Catering

**Fossil Point**

**Prep: 10.25.2015 through 10.28.2015**

**Shoot 10.29.2015 through 10.30.2015**

**Strike 10.31.2015 through 11.2.2015**

“View to Avalon”, and reverse: GPS 38.451836, -109.734601

Dialogue out on rock point, 4 horses, brandishing weapons, wagons, intermittent traffic control

“Graveyard” GPS 38.452870, -109.735401

Set construction of gravestones with bells staking them down less than 1 foot, fake dead bodies, brandishing weapons, wagons, horses, intermittent traffic control

“Western Landscape” GPS 38.460886, -109.749009

15 Indians riding 15 horses on road west of Fossil Point; Helicopter used for aerial shots; Weapons brandished, wagons, horses, intermittent traffic control

“Armored Wagon”

Set construction of fence to shoot bottles off, guns, gunfire, wagons, 6 horses, breaking bottle squib, intermittent traffic control, various wagon traveling shots on road

Additional Base Staging 10.25.2015 through 11.1.2015:

One side of Potash Rd/Shaffer Basin Rd in Fossil Point area

**Aerial Filming with Helicopter 10.29.2015 and 10.30.2015**

**Fossil Point:** 6 actors on horseback riding on and off road just east of Fossil Point, weapons brandished

**Fossil Point to Hurrah Pass**

**Monitor & Merrimac Buttes**

**Fisher Mesa**

Additional Base Staging 10.28.2015 through 10.31.2015:

Long Canyon/Hwy 313 junction, parking & LZ

**Project Purpose and Need:** The project is commercial filming that requires a BLM permit.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

Land Use Plan Name: Moab Field Office RMP, Approved October 2008

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Page 65 of the Moab Field Office RMP reads as follows: “Meet public needs for use authorizations such as rights-of-way, alternative energy sources, and permits while minimizing adverse impacts to resource values.”

**C. Compliance with NEPA**

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 (E) 19. This reference states “issuance of short-term (3 years or less) rights-of-way or land use authorization where the proposal includes rehabilitation to restore the land to its natural or original condition.”

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR Part 46.215 applies.

**D: Signature**

  
Beth Ransel, Field Manager

Date: 10/16/15

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:

Judie Chrobak-Cox  
Moab Field Office  
82 E. Dogwood  
Moab, Utah 84532  
435-259-2100

The following BLM Specialists have reviewed the proposed action and have determined that none of the 12 exceptions below apply to this project:

Name	Title	Critical Element(s)
Ann Marie Aubry	Hydrologist	Air Quality, Water Quality, Floodplains, Wetlands/Riparian Zones
Katie Stevens	Outdoor Rec. Planner	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Wild & Scenic Rivers
Bill Stevens	Outdoor Rec. Planner	Wilderness, Environmental Justice
David Williams	Rangeland Management Specialist	Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Plant Species
Jordan Davis	Rangeland Management Specialist	Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds
Pam Riddle	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Animal Species, Migratory Birds
Jared Lundell	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns
David Pals	Geologist	Hazardous Wastes
Judie Chrobak-Cox	Visitor Services Lead	Lead Preparer

### Exceptions to Categorical Exclusion Documentation

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the below listed exceptions to categorical exclusion documentation apply. **Would the project:**

<i>Exceptions</i>	(a) Yes	(b) No
1. Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed filming project is not likely to result in significant impacts to public health or safety. While filming on highways, traffic control would be provided by law enforcement officers. To keep impacts to a minimum and not impair public health or safety, the applicant would obtain, maintain and abide by all relevant Federal, state and local government requirements and mitigation stipulations.		
2. Have adverse effects on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild and scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> Conformance with the Land Use Plan and the Categorical Exclusion Review Record for has been completed indicating none of the above concerns are present in the described locations and that significant impacts are not anticipated as a result of the proposed filming activity.		
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102 (2)(E)]		X
<b>Rationale:</b> As described, the proposed action is categorically excluded under 516 DM 11.9 (E)19. Categorically excluded actions generally have very predictable consequences well established as insignificant and, therefore, would not create environmental effects that would generate controversy or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. No controversial effects or conflicts have been identified with this filming project.		
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed filming project would not result in uncertain or unknown environmental risks.		
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principal about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed project is not connected to another action and would not set a precedent for future actions that would normally require environmental analysis.		

6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> Filming in the requested locations would not have a direct relationship to other actions that would create cumulatively significant environmental effects.		
7. Have adverse effects on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action meets waiver of inventory requirements per BLM Handbook 8101-Utah. The nature of the proposed action is such that no impact can be expected on significant cultural resources.		

8. Have adverse effects on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The filming project would not have impacts of this kind. All filming activity would be conducted from and within existing described recreation areas, hiking areas, and highway rights-of-way. All vehicles would stay on designated routes, turnouts, parking areas and the base camps.		
9. Have the potential to violate a Federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The applicant would be required to maintain and abide by all relevant Federal, state and local laws throughout the term of the permit.		
10. Have the potential for a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed filming project would not have an adverse effect on low income or minority populations.		
11. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> There are no known Indian ceremonial or sacred sites within the proposed areas.		
12. Significantly contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weeds Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		X
<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed filming project should not result in introduction or spread of noxious weeds.		

Lead Preparer: *J. L. L. Ory* Date: 10-16-15

**Attachments**

Maps

ID Team Checklist



**Categorical Exclusion Review Record**  
**Film Permit UTU-91445**

The following elements are not present in the Moab Field Office and have been removed from the checklist:  
 Farmlands (Prime or Unique), Wild Horses and Burros.

Resource	Yes/No*	Assigned Specialist Signature	Date
Air Quality	No	Am Ahr	10.13.15
Floodplains	No	Am Ahr	10.13.15
Water Quality (drinking or ground)	No	Am Ahr	10.13.15
Wetlands / Riparian Zones	No	Am Ahr	10.13.15
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	No	K Stevens	10/13/15
Wild and Scenic Rivers	No	K Stevens	10/13/15
Wilderness	No	Or Stevens	10-13-15
Native American Religious Concerns	No	N. M.	10-13-15
Cultural Resources	No	N. M.	10-13-15
Environmental Justice	No	Or Stevens	10.13.15
Wastes (hazardous or solid)	No	DR	10/13/15
Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Animal Species	No	DR	10/13/15
Migratory Birds	No	DR	10/13/15
Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Plant Species	No	D. Walker	10/13/15
Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds	No	Jordan Davis	10/13/15
Other:	No		

\*Extraordinary Circumstances apply.

Environmental Coordinator Kc Stevens Date: 10/13/15

# Swayse Rapids

R 16E

T 19S

33

34

35

T 19S

T 20S

04

03

02

T 20S

R 16E

Campground

Creek Near Avalon Shootout

Boat Ramp

UTU-91445

Swayse Rapids Area

T. 19 S., R. 16 E., sec. 34.

T. 20 S., R. 16 E., sec. 03.

Location Map  
Utah BLM Field Office Boundaries



Date: 10/15/2015

## Legend

- State and Federal Highways
- B Roads (Maintained)
- D Roads (Unmaintained)
- non\_designated\_routes
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- US Forest Service (USFS)
- National Park Service (NPS)
- Private
- State



0 0.1 0.2 Kilometers

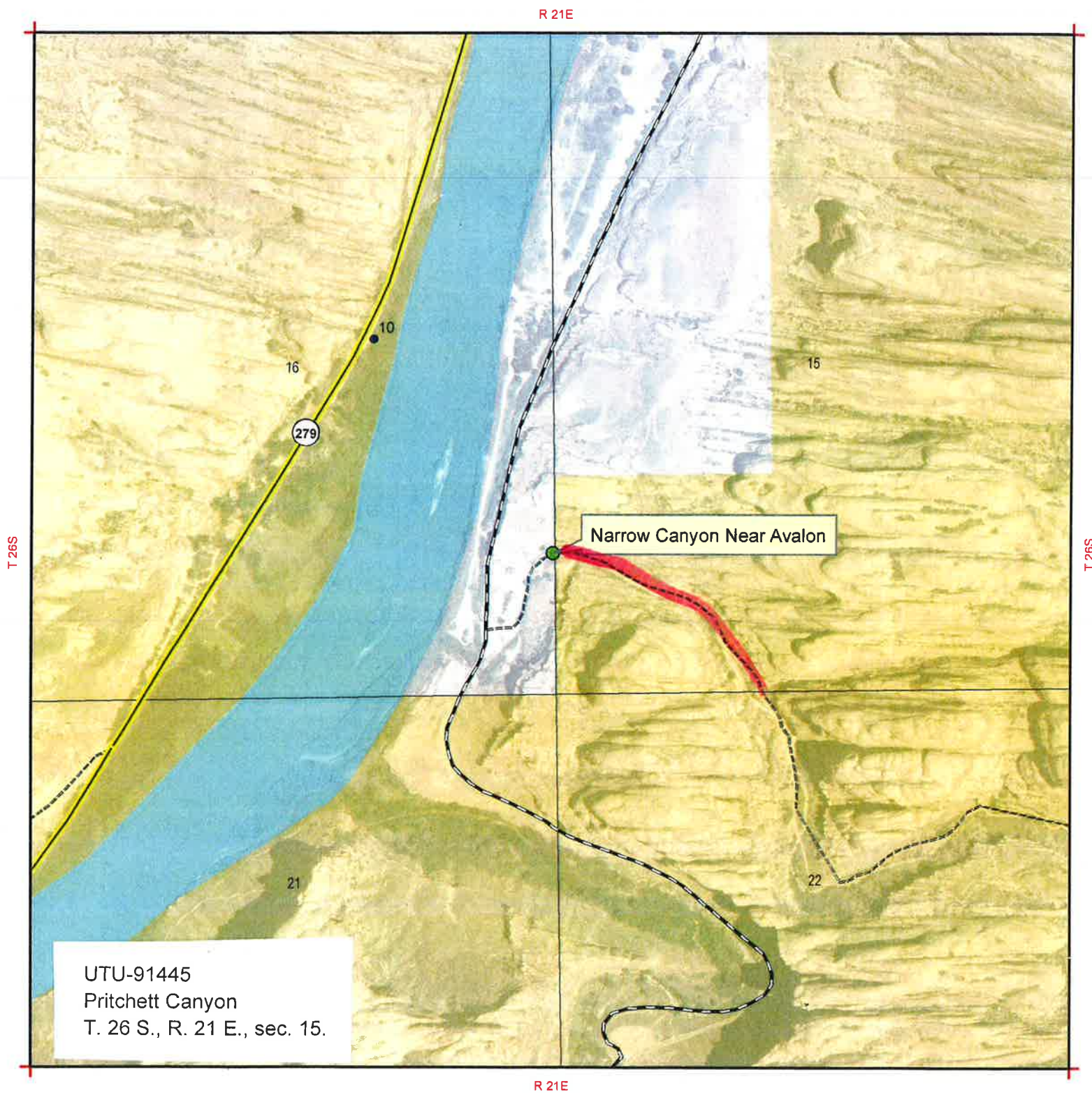
0 0.1 0.2 Miles



*No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.*



# Pritchett Canyon



Location Map  
Utah BLM Field Office Boundaries



Date: 10/15/2015

## Legend

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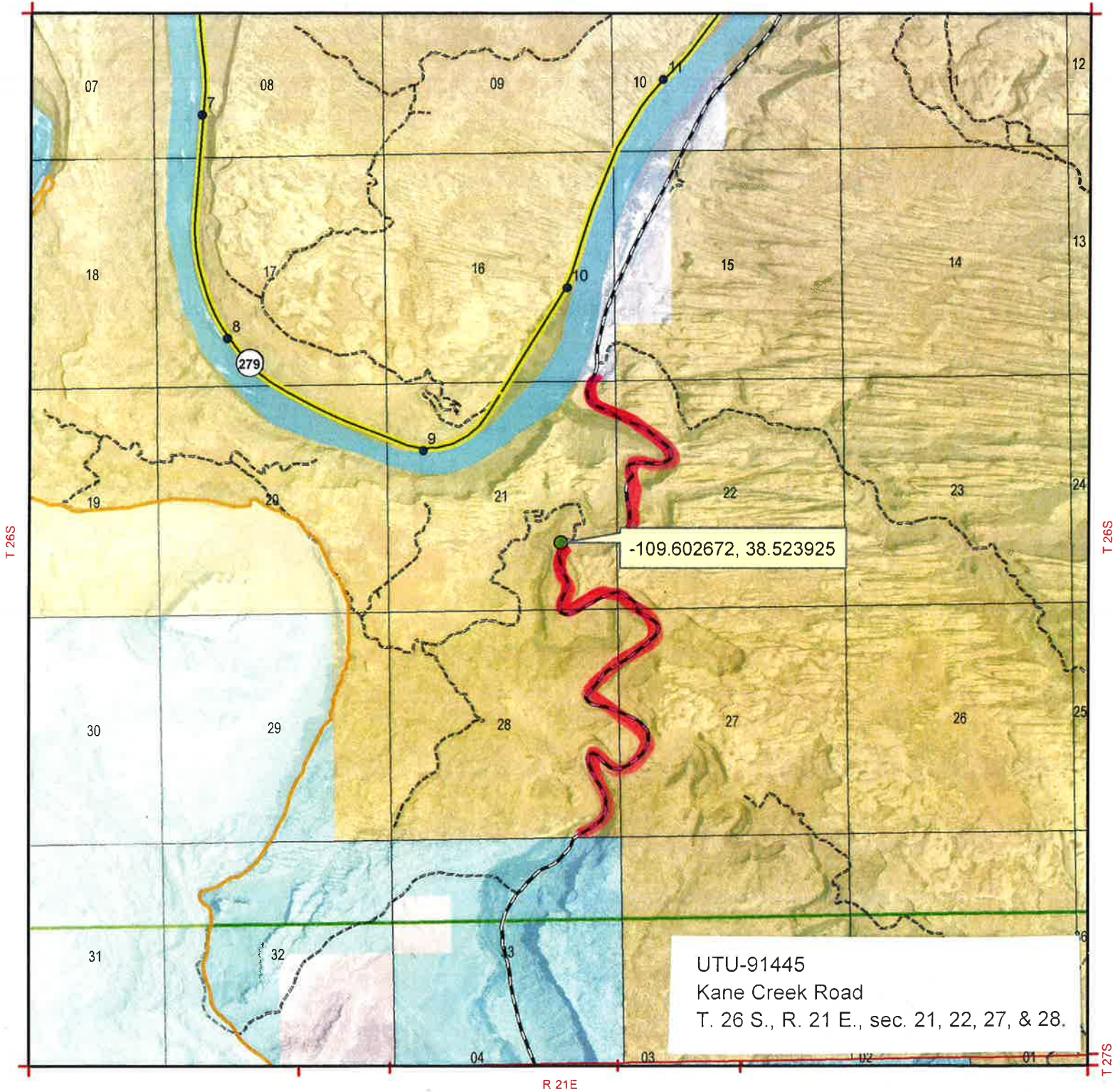


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# Kane Creek

R 21E



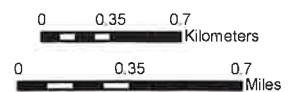
Location Map  
Utah BLM Field Office Boundaries



Date: 10/15/2015

## Legend

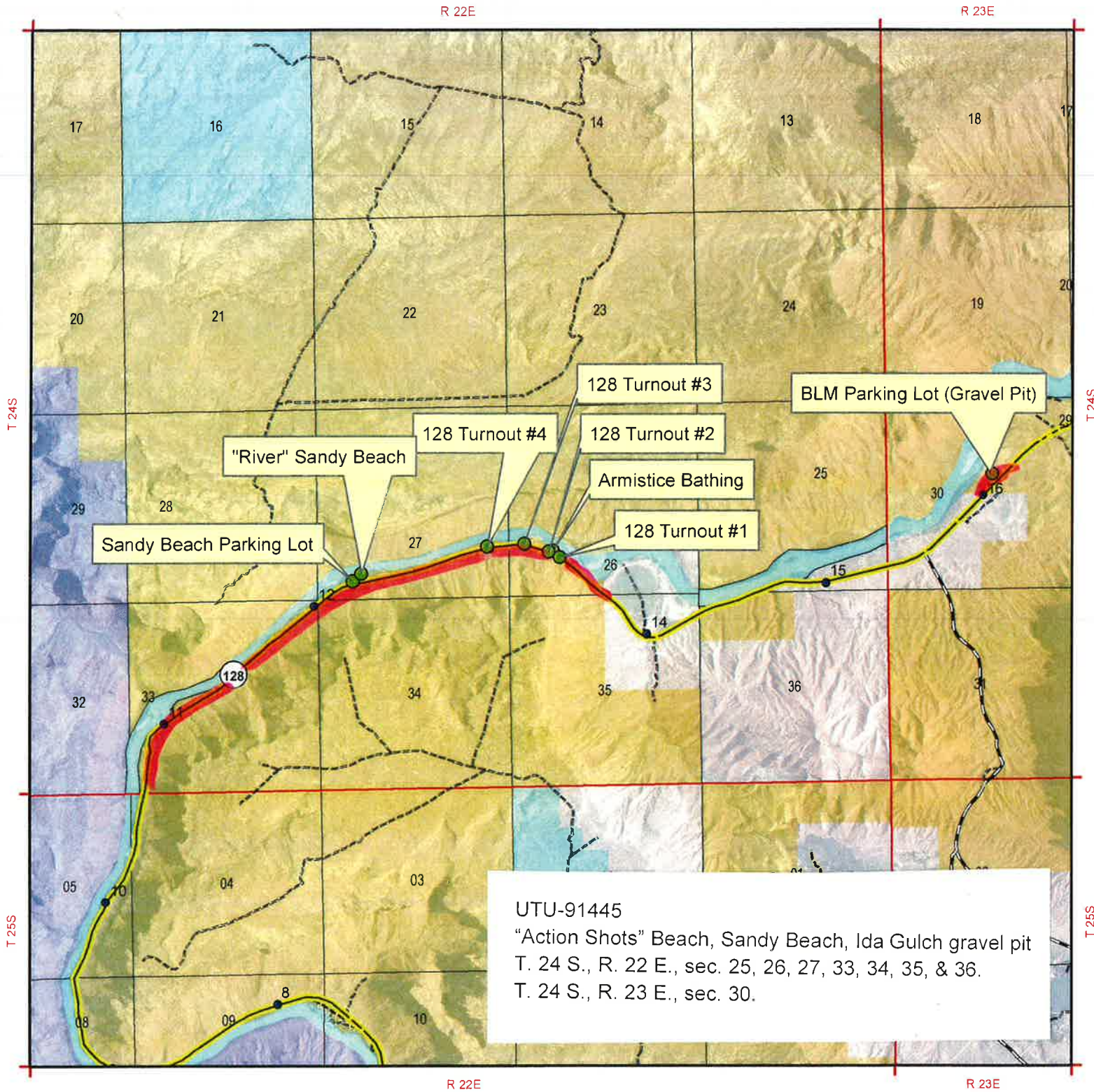
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# Action Shots Beach



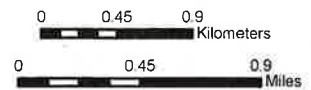
Location Map  
 Utah BLM Field Office Boundaries



Date: 10/15/2015

## Legend

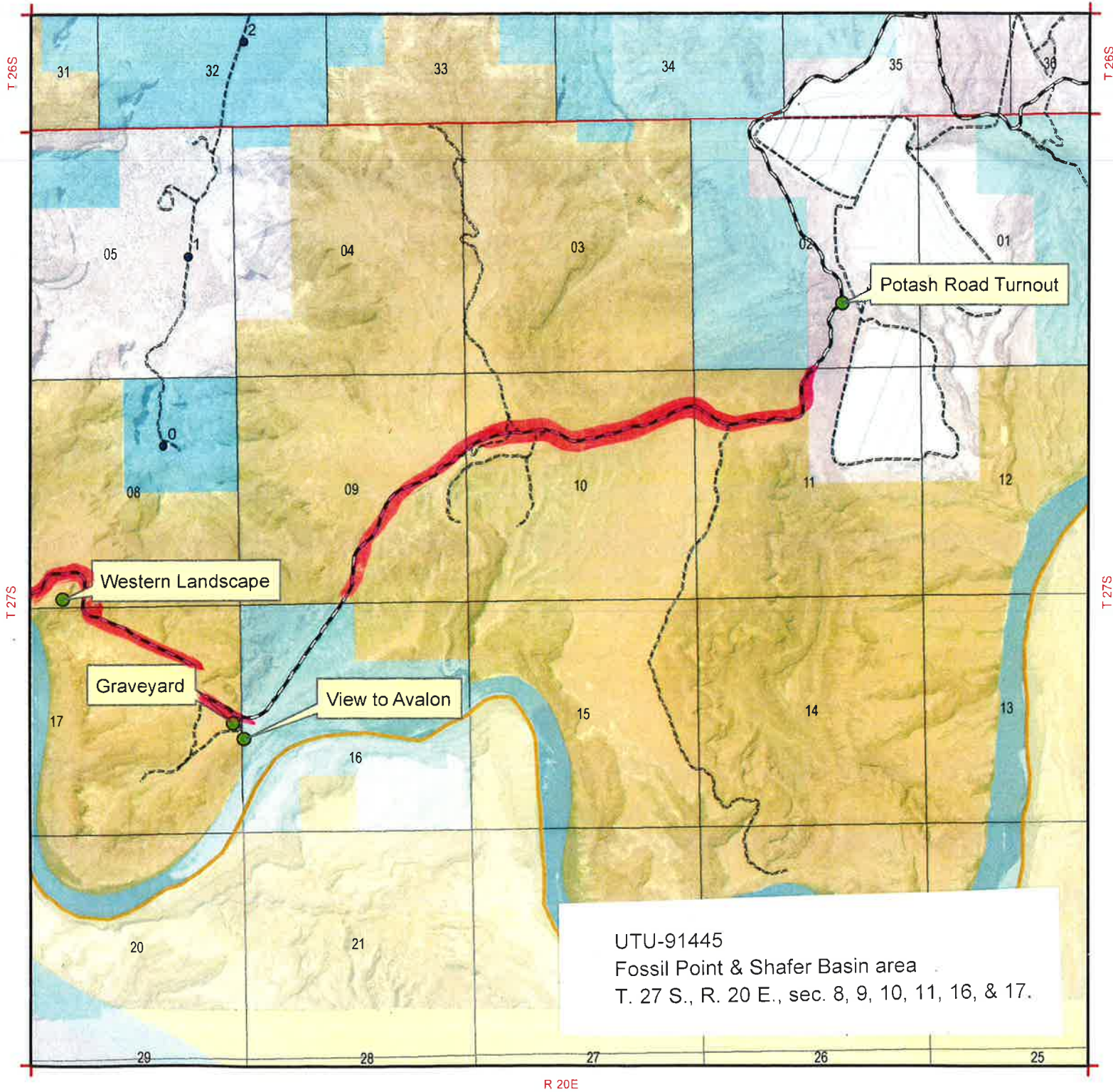
- State and Federal Highways
- B Roads (Maintained)
- D Roads (Unmaintained)
- non\_designated\_routes
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
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# R 20E Fossil Point



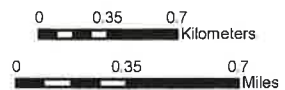
Location Map  
Utah BLM Field Office Boundaries



Date: 10/15/2015

## Legend

- State and Federal Highways
- B Roads (Maintained)
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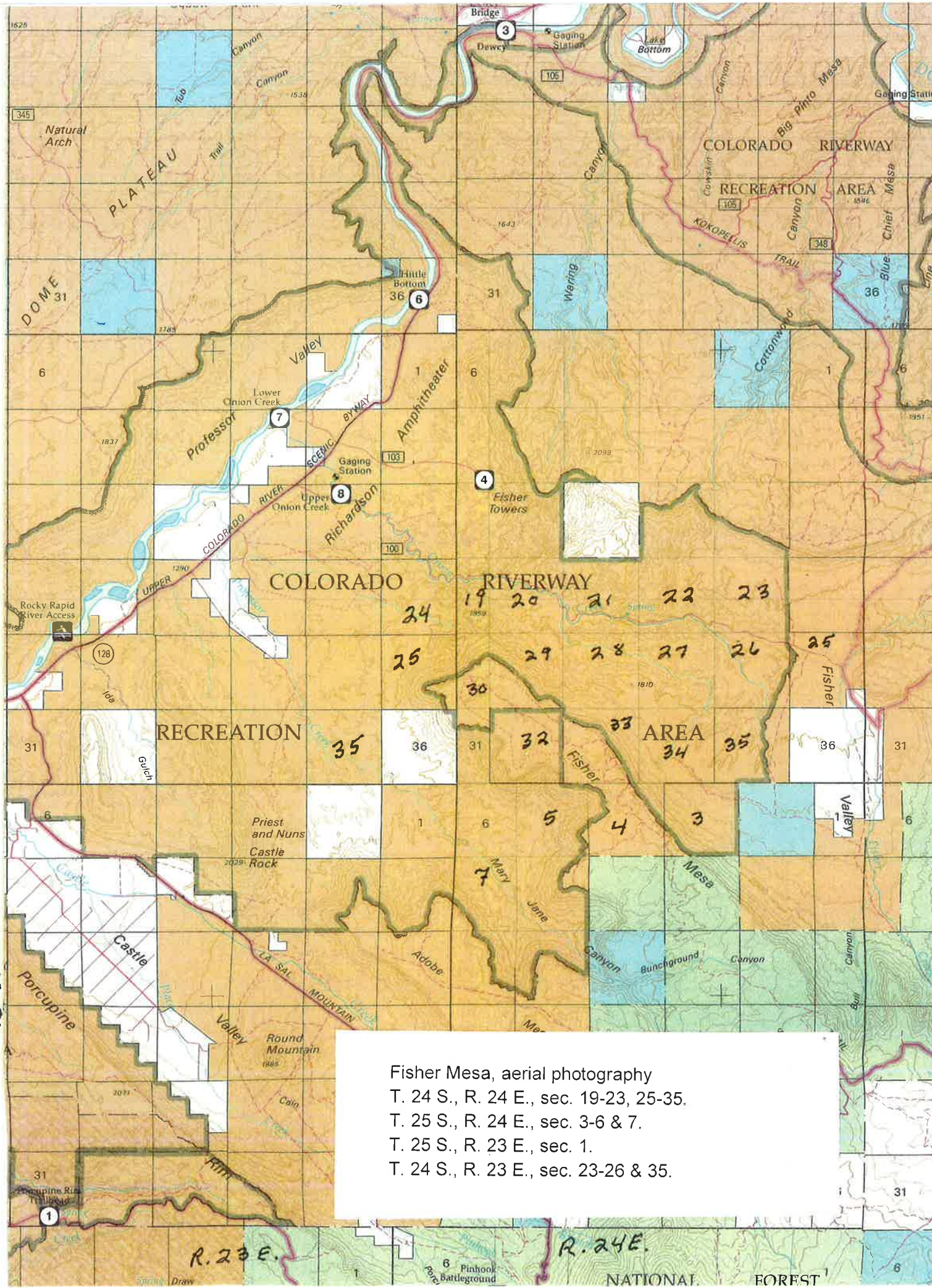


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T. 24 S.

T. 25 S.



Fisher Mesa, aerial photography

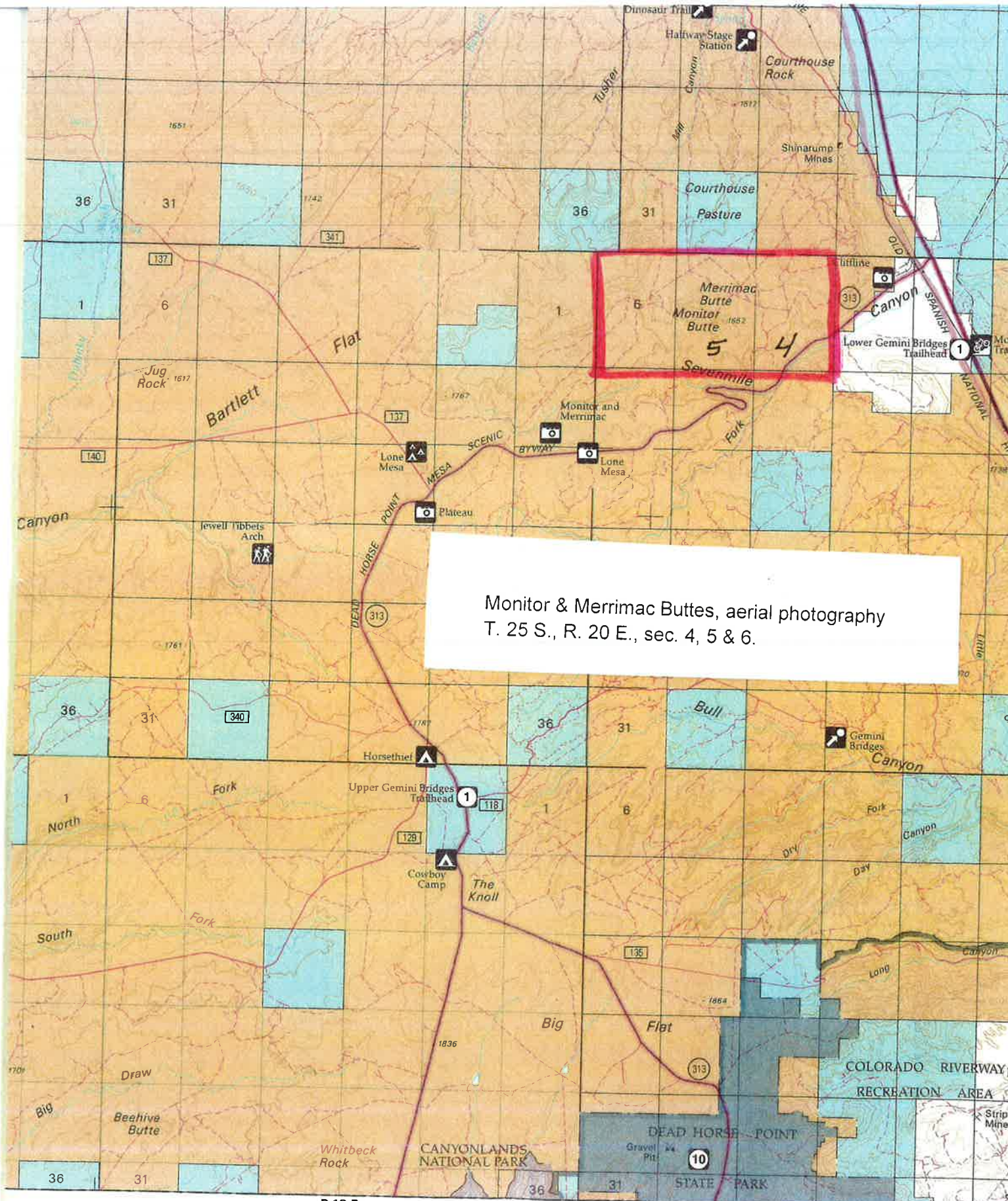
T. 24 S., R. 24 E., sec. 19-23, 25-35.

T. 25 S., R. 24 E., sec. 3-6 & 7.

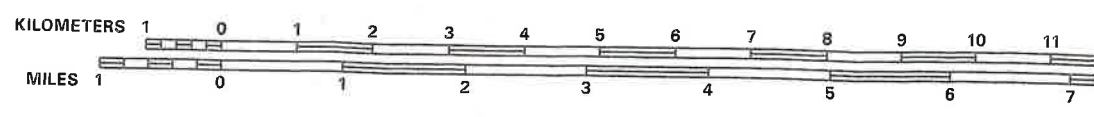
T. 25 S., R. 23 E., sec. 1.

T. 24 S., R. 23 E., sec. 23-26 & 35.





Monitor & Merrimac Buttes, aerial photography  
T. 25 S., R. 20 E., sec. 4, 5 & 6.





## Approval and Decision

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the Moab Field Office RMP, approved October 2008 and that no further environmental analysis is required.

It is my decision to issue film permit UTU-91445 to Autonomy Productions, LLC of Newhall, California pursuant to the authority of Section 302(b) of P.L. 579, October 21, 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1732). The permit will authorize 11 days of filming on BLM National System of Public Lands in Grand and San Juan Counties described in the proposed action and shown on the attached maps.

Rationale: The proposal meets the criteria for minimum impact filming in WO Instruction Memorandum 96-148 and the guidelines in 43 CFR 2920.2-2 and is therefore, a full force and effect decision. The proposed action is not in a WSA or area requiring additional NEPA analysis. The proposed action would not result in unnecessary or undue environmental degradation.

This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay. Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at 82 East Dogwood, Moab, UT 84532. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer. If you wish to file a petition for stay pursuant to 43 CFR Part 4.21(b), the petition for stay should accompany your notice of appeal and shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
3. The likelihood of irreparable harm to the appellant or resources if the stay is not granted, and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken, and with the IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Authorized Officer.

A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, 6201 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1180, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the Authorized Officer and/or IBLA.

  
Beth Ransel, Field Manager

Date: 10/16/15